

Nepal Sambat (Era) 1141 Bachhala 31
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**Joint statement on the occasion of
International Day against Queerphobia (IDaQu)**

May 17 is celebrated across the globe as the day against homophobia, biphobia, transphobia, intersexphobia, aphobia and hatred of people across the SOGIESC (Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Sex Characteristics) spectrum, we in Nepal use the term 'queerphobia' to encompass the spectrum of marginalized SOGIESC identities. We activists from Nepal have coined the term PoMSOGIESC - People of Marginalized Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Sex Characteristics as an umbrella term.

Hashtags for the event: #IDaQu #IDaQu2021 #IDaQuNepal

Our theme of May 17 this year is: "Calling against the other gender directive: Founding for establishment of SOGIESC definitions" (The theme was originally finalized in Nepali language, and translated in English).

The Ministry of Home Affairs has promulgated a directive regarding 'Others gender'. This directive not only uses mis-nomers, but also has failed to understand that sexual orientation, gender identity and sex characteristics are three different things. It has defined that 'LGBTI' is an 'others gender', which is a blunder definition that has had harmful consequences to the community. The directive defines sexual orientation as 'gender', creating contexts where openly gay, lesbian and bisexual people are legally persuaded to get a citizenship as 'others gender'. The consequence of mis-nomer and mis-definition on cis passing LGB people maybe avoidable, transgender and intersex people are mostly affected by this directive. Trans men are being denied gender recognition as men and trans women are being denied gender recognition as women. Intersex people are being denied of their gender recognition. We are calling for the government to scrap this directive and introduce a comprehensive and appropriate definition and terminology around SOGIESC, also addressing the actual needs around gender recognition.



Past three months, we have facilitated this process by publishing a book in Nepali language that introduces the terminologies and concepts of SOGIESC. The book can be found here : https://nepalcfc.org/basic_sogiesc_nepali/

Similarly, today, to complement our theme and the agenda, we are publishing the following books:

1. Charter of Demands in 2020 regarding the right of gender identity, ISBN: 978-9937-0-8912-3

- ❖ 2020 was a year of charter of demands. We published four different charter of demands the year. They are *National Transgender Demand Sheet*, *National Charter of Demands on Legal Recognition of Gender Identity*, *Charter of demands on gender identity in Citizenship Act Amendment Bill*, and *National Intersex Demand Sheet*. All of the charters are on recognition of gender identity. These are only available in Nepali for now, we plan to publish the English version soon.

The book can be found here: <https://nepalcfc.org/demandsheetbook-nep/>

2. Ministry of Home Affairs directive on others gender: Violation of human rights, ISBN: 978-9937-0-8913-5

- ❖ Last year we filed a complaint at the National Human Rights Commission against the 'other gender' directive of the Ministry of Home Affairs. This book compiles the same complaint document, the directive, with its English translation. This book is bilingual.

The book can be found here: <https://nepalcfc.org/othergender-complaint/>

Hereby,

Esan

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